

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 107347

41

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:JWCAMPBELL:FMC

APPROVED BY EA - MR. SNEIDER

EA/J - MR. SHERMAN

S/S - MR. LUERS

----- 006881

R 222115Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 107347

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, TECH, JA

SUBJECT: OKINAWA VOA RELAY STATION

REF: STATE 100219

1. IN COURSE OF LENGTHY DISCUSSION MAY 21 AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU CHIEF OKAWARA AND DEPASST SEC SNEIDER REACHED MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING INTERPRETATION OF REVERSION AGREEMENT AGREED MINUTE WITH RESPECT TO VOA OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977. DCM YAMAZAKI AND COUNTRY DIRECTOR SHERMAN WERE ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING.

2. OKAWARA INITIALLY REITERATED JAPANESE POSITION THAT FIVE YEAR PERIOD OF OPERATION FOR VOA OKINAWA RELAY STATION AFTER REVERSION WAS ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM WHICH GOJ COULD HAVE PRESENTED IN DIET IN 1971 AND THAT GOJ NEGOTIATORS MORI, YOSHINO AND IKAWA ALL AGREE THIS HAD BEEN JAPANESE POSITION THROUGHOUT 1971 NEGOTIATIONS. AGREED MINUTE LANGUAGE REFERRING TO "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CHOSEN AND THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED WITH US SIDE DURING COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS. "NATURAL CALAMITY" DEFINITION WHICH AS BEEN PROVIDED IN DIET WOULD REQUIRE VERY NARROW INTERPRETATION. IF US UNDERSTANDING DIFFERED IT SHOULD HAVE MADE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 107347

ITS OBJECTIONS KNOWN AT TIME OF DIET DEBATE.

3. SNEIDER REJECTED ASSERTION THAT AGREED MINUTE LANGUAGE HAD EVER BEEN UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE SUCH RIGID, NARROW MEANING

AND SAID THAT GOJ POSITION AS NOW DEFINED COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED BY USG IN 1971. HE PRESENTED ABSTRACT OF REPORTING TELEGRAM OF MAY 12, 1971 NEGOTIATING SESSION (PARAS 1-5 AND PARA 10 OF EMBTEL 4348) TO OKAWARA, NOTING THAT IT SPECIFICALLY REFERS TO GOJ ASSURANCES THAT VOA COULD CONTINUE OPERATIONS UNTIL NEW FACILITY WAS COMPLETED. HE RECALLED THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTRACTUAL OR CONSTRUCTION DELAYS HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY AND REPEATEDLY DISCUSSED AND THAT AT NO TIME HAD THE TERM "NATURAL CALAMITIES" BEEN OFFERED AS A DEFINITION FOR "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES". HE POINTED OUT THAT IN EVERY INSTANCE WHERE CLARIFICATION OF TREATY LANGUAGE HAD BEEN DEEMED NECESSARY SOME FORM OF WRITTEN RECORD HAD BEEN MADE AND REMAINED PART OF RECORD. NO SUCH SUPPORTING PAPER EXISTED WITH REGARD TO "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" TERMINOLOGY. HE SAID THAT THE US HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED AT THE TIME THE TERM "NATURAL CALAMITY" HAD BEEN USED BY FONOFF OFFICIALS IN RESPONDING TO THE DIET INTERPELLATION AND HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF ITS USE UNTIL LATER. IN ANY CASE, SNEIDER EMPHASIZED, THE US COULD NOT AGREE TO REMOVE VOA OPERATIONS OR CONCLUDE THE CURRENT CONSULTATIONS AS LONG AS THE GOJ INSISTED ON A NARROW AND UNILATERAL REDEFINITION OF TERMS.

4. OKAWARA SAID THAT SINCE US HAS NOT YET SOUGHT APPROPRIATION OR SITE FOR SUBSTITUTE FACILITY, IT HAS IN EFFECT WASTED TWO YEARS AND THEREFORE ANY DELAY BEYOND 5 YEAR PERIOD COULD NOT BE ATTRIBUTED TO "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" SNEIDER REPLIED THAT USG HAD, IN FACT, DONE CONSIDERABLE PREPARATORY WORK ON APPROPRIATION REQUEST AND PRELIMINARY SITE SURVEYS. US HAD NEVER CONTEMPLATED BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION IMMEDIATELY AFTER REVERSION. TWO YEARS HAD NOT BEEN WASTED SINCE USG COULD NOT ACT OFFICIALLY UNTIL CURRENT FORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH GOJ WERE COMPLETED. IN ORDER TO ACT IN GOOD FAITH WITH RESPECT TO CONGRESS, USG HAD TO PROCEED WITH SERIOUS, NOT PRO FORMA, CONSULTATIONS. THIS HAS NOW BEEN DONE. GOJ HAD BEEN ASKED TO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 107347

RECONSIDER ITS POSITION AND STILL INSISTS ON TERMINATION OF VOA OPERATION. WE CAN NOW REPORT TO CONGRESS THAT GOJ HAS REJECTED OUR REQUEST AND WE MUST BEGIN TO MOVE AHEAD ON CONSTRUCTION OF A REPLACEMENT FACILITY. HE REMINDED OKAWARA THAT GOJ HAD ORIGINALLY TALKED IN TERMS OF TWO YEAR CONSTRUCTION PERIOD WHILE US HAD ALWAYS FELT LONGER PERIOD WOULD BE REQUIRED. US IS FULLY PREPARED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION WITHIN

REMAINING THREE YEAR PERIOD BUT MUST BE PROTECTED AGAINST
ODD CHANCE THAT UNFORESEEN DELAYS MAY OCCUR.

5. OKAWARA THEN INSISTED THAT GOJ COULD NOT GO TO THE
DIET FOR LEGISLATION EXTENDING VOA OPERATIONS ON OKINAWA
WITHOUT A "REASONABLE, LEGITIMATE, JUSTIFIABLE" REQUEST
FROM USG. SNEIDER AGREED THAT THIS WAS PROPER AND
DESCRIBED BUDGET REQUEST, SITE ACQUISITION AND CONTRACTUAL
COMMITMENT AS "FORESEEABLE" REQUIREMENTS FOR TIMELY
COMPLETION OF NEW FACILITY WHICH WERE CLEAR US RESPONSIBIL-
ITY. ON OTHER HAND, NATURAL CALAMITIES, LOSS OF EQUIP-
MENT OR MATERIALS AT SEA, STRIKES, OR MANY OTHER OCCUR-
RENCES OF THIS NATURE WERE CLEARLY "UNFORESEEABLE" EVENTS
WHICH COULD LEGITIMATELY DELAY COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION.
OKAWARA SEEMED REASSURED BY THIS EXPLANATION AND CONCURRED.
SNEIDER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT AGREEMENT HAD
APPARENTLY BEEN REACHED ON WHAT HAD EARLIER APPEARED TO BE
SERIOUS MISUNDERSTANDING. US COULD NOW MOVE AHEAD,
ALTHOUGH HE PREDICTED PROBABLE SERIOUS BUDGETARY PROBLEM
WITH CONGRESS. HOWEVER, WITH FORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH
GOJ COMPLETED AND NECESSITY FOR TERMINATION OF VOA OKINAWA
MADE CLEAR, USG NOW IS IN POSITION TO GO TO CONGRESS.
OKAWARA ASKED HOW SOON COMPLETION OF CURRENT FORMAL CON-
SULTATIONS MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED. SNEIDER SAID HE WISHED
CONFER FIRST WITH USIA OFFICIALS AND WOULD THEN PROMPTLY
NOTIFY EMBASSY TOKYO.

RUSH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, RADIO STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE107347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWCAMPBELL:FMC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740129-0272
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740526/aaaaawjf.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 100219
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OKINAWA VOA RELAY STATION
TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, TECH, JA, US, VOA
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005